



# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## DIVISION OF BANKS

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## Massachusetts Division of Banks Celebrates National Consumer Protection Week

**Boston, MA** (March 7, 2016) – The Massachusetts Division of Banks (Division) is proud to participate in the 2016 National Consumer Protection Week, a campaign highlighting consumer protection and education efforts across the country. Representatives from the Division will highlight key state and federal resources at First Time Homebuyer Workshops and Credit for Life Fairs this week in Boston, Bourne, Danvers, Falmouth, New Bedford, Quincy, Seekonk, Wareham, Wellesley, and Westfield.

“Consumer protection is a priority at the Division. Our staff works diligently to ensure consumers across the Commonwealth are protected from unfair practices including financial fraud, predatory lending, aggressive debt collection, and mortgage scams. Consumer Protection Week is an annual reminder for consumers to take full advantage of the free services and resources available to them,” said Commissioner of Banks David Cotney.

Safeguarding against identity theft is an important area of concern for the Division. To learn more about your consumer rights and how to protect yourself against identity theft, visit the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation [Identity Theft Resources page](#). For more information on fraud and scams, please visit the federal resources available at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) [Consumer Protection Topics – Identity Theft page](#) or the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) [Ask CFPB page](#).

In order to verify registrants/licensees authorized to conduct financial-services related business in Massachusetts, please visit the [Nationwide Multistate Licensing System & Registry \(NMLS\)](#). To locate a Massachusetts state-chartered and insured financial institution, visit the Division’s [Find Banks & Credit Unions page](#).

### About the Division of Banks

The Division of Banks is an agency within the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation which oversees state-chartered banks and credit unions, check sellers, debt collectors, foreign transmittal agencies, mortgage lenders and brokers. For more information visit the Division’s website at <http://www.mass.gov/dob> or contact the Division of Bank’s Consumer Hotline at 1-800-495-BANK (2265).